

§ 1.920

38 CFR Ch. I (7–1–04 Edition)

5302, has expired and the debtor, after notice in accordance with § 1.911, has not made such a request. This subsection does not apply to debts resulting from participation in the loan program administered under chapter 37 of title 38 of the United States Code.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5302, 5315)

(g) Administrative costs assessed under § 1.919 shall be the average costs of collection of similar debts, or actual collection costs as may be accurately determined in the particular case. No administrative costs of collection will be assessed under § 1.919 in any cases where the indebtedness is paid in full prior to the 30 day period specified in paragraph (e) of this section, or in any case where a repayment plan is proposed by the debtor and accepted by the Department of Veterans Affairs within that period, unless such repayment agreement becomes delinquent.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5315)

[46 FR 62057, Dec. 22, 1981, as amended at 52 FR 42107, Nov. 3, 1987]

§ 1.920 Documentation of collection action.

An appropriate file will be maintained for each claim completely documenting all Department of Veterans Affairs collection action and the basis for any compromise or for suspension or termination of collection action.

[46 FR 62057, Dec. 22, 1981]

§ 1.921 Additional collection action.

Nothing in §§ 1.900 through 1.954 is intended to preclude the utilization of any other remedy available to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

§ 1.922 Disclosure of debt information to consumer reporting agencies (CRA).

(a) The Department of Veterans Affairs may disclose all information determined to be necessary, including the name, address, Department of Veterans Affairs file number, Social Security number, and date of birth, to consumer reporting agencies for the purpose of—

(1) Obtaining the location of an individual indebted to the United States as a result of participation in any benefits

program administered by VA or indebted in any other manner to VA;

(2) Obtaining a consumer report in order to assess an individual's ability to repay a debt when such individual has failed to respond to the Department's demand for repayment or when such individual has notified the Department that he/she will not repay the indebtedness; or

(3) Obtaining the location of an individual in order to conduct program evaluation studies as required by 38 U.S.C. 527 or any other law.

(b) Information disclosed by the Department of Veterans Affairs under paragraph (a) of this section to consumer reporting agencies shall neither expressly nor implicitly indicate that an individual is indebted to the United States nor shall such information be recorded by consumer reporting agencies in a manner that reflects adversely upon the individual. Prior to disclosing this information, the Department of Veterans Affairs shall ascertain that consumer reporting agencies with which it contracts are able to comply with this requirement. The Department of Veterans Affairs shall also make reasonable efforts to insure compliance by its contractor with this requirement.

(c) Subject to the conditions set forth in paragraph (d) of this section, information concerning individuals may be disclosed to consumer reporting agencies for inclusion in consumer reports pertaining to the individual, or for the purpose of locating the individual. Disclosure of the fact of indebtedness will be made if the individual fails to respond in accordance with written demands for repayment, or refuses to repay a debt to the United States. In making any disclosure under this section, VA will provide consumer reporting agencies with sufficient information to identify the individual, including the individual's name, address, if known, date of birth, VA file number, and Social Security number.

(d)(1) Prior to releasing information under paragraph (c) of this section, the Department of Veterans Affairs will send a notice to the individual. This notice will inform the individual that—

(i) The Department of Veterans Affairs has determined that he or she is